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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

A REPORT BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY PREPARED IN COORDINATION WITH THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

September | Wesley S. Noyes, Jr., Editor
Supervisor, Economic Analysis and Reports | 83-9

SUMMARY: Total unemployment in New Hampshire decreased by 3,080 from mid-August to mid-September. The rate dropped from 4.1 to 3.6 percent. This was the lowest unemployment rate of any state in the nation for the second consecutive month. All eleven labor market areas experienced over the month unemployment decreases with the largest decrease (600) occurring in the Manchester Labor Market Area. Rates of unemployment ranged from a low of 2.8 percent in the Laconia Labor Market Area to a high of 5.8 percent in the Salem Labor Market Area.

Nonagricultural Employment Changes The number of nonagricultural wage and salary workers excluding 2,900 workers returning to work after a labor dispute decreased in September. Seasonal layoffs occured in trade and services but some establishments extended their season through the middle of september, as excellent weather conditions prevailed for tourist activities.

Reopening of public and private schools and colleges resulted in the hiring of bus drivers, teacher aides, cafeteria workers, janitors, and clerical workers. Some temporary replacements of student workers returning to school were needed by trade and service establishments in late August. Construction employment declined by 500 but still remained above the year ago level.

Year ago comparisons indicate a gain of 2,150 jobs in manufacturing and a gain of 1,800 jobs in nonmanufacturing.

Manchester Labor Market Area Total unemployment decreased by 600 and the 3,140 unemployed represented 3.6 percent of the civilian labor force of 87,930. A year ago there were 5,460 unemployed and the rate was 6.4 percent. Nonagricultural employment excluding the 1,300 workers returning to work after a labor dispute showed no change from August to September. Year ago comparisons indicate a gain of 1,150. The largest employment gain (550) was in the trade division. Services had the next largest gain with 400.

Nashua Labor Market Area Total unemployment decreased by 520 and the 2,660 unemployed represented 3.0 percent of the civilian labor force of 89,770. A year ago there were 4,990 unemployed and the rate was 5.9 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 550 excluding 300 workers returning to work after a labor dispute. Year ago comparisons indicate Nashua had a gain of 2,650 in employment with more than 1,700 of these jobs being added in the machinery and electrical products industry.

New Hampshire Labor Force, Total Employment and Unemployment and Nonagricultural
Wage and Salary Employment as of the Middle of the Month

Industry	State					Manchester Labor Market Area					Nashua Labor Market Area				
	Number of Workers			Numerical Change		Number of Workers			Numerical Change		Number of Workers			Numerical Change	
	Sept. 1983	August 1983	Sept. 1982	From Previous Month	From Previous Year	Sept. 1983	August 1983	Sept. 1982	From Previous Month	From Previous Year	Sept. 1983	August 1983	Sept. 1982	From Previous Month	From Previous Year
1. Civilian labor force*	505,950	510,090	492,840	-4,140	13,110	87,930	88,670	85,300	-740	2,630	89,770	89,940	85,050	-170	4,720
2. Unemployment	18,010	21,090	31,790	-3,080	-13,780	3,140	3,740	5,460	-600	-2,320	2,660	3,180	4,990	-520	-2,330
Percent of labor force	3.6	4.1	6.5	xxx	xxx	3.6	4.2	6.4	xxx	xxx	3.0	3.5	5.9	xxx	xxx
3. Employment total	487,940	489,000	461,050	-1,060	26,890	84,790	84,930	79,840	-140	4,950	87,110	86,760	80,060	350	7,050
4. Persons involved in labor disputes	0	2,900	0	-2,900	0	0	1,300	0	-1,300	0	0	300	0	-300	0
Nonagri. wage & salary**	408,350	406,750	404,400	1,600	3,950	77,500	76,200	76,350	1,300	1,150	71,950	71,100	69,300	850	2,650
Manufacturing	114,200	113,600	112,050	600	2,150	17,100	17,200	16,750	-100	350	33,800	33,850	32,100	-50	1,700
Durable goods	73,850	73,300	72,150	550	1,700	9,500	9,450	9,100	50	400	27,250	27,250	25,500	0	1,750
Lumber & wood prods.	4,600	4,600	4,550	0	50										
Furniture & fixtures	1,500	1,450	1,400	50	100										
Stone & clay prods.	2,650	2,700	2,700	-50	-50										
Primary metal prods.	3,850	**3,550	3,650	300	200										
Fabricated metal prods.	7,050	6,950	7,200	100	-150										
Machinery (exc. elec.)	21,800	21,800	22,800	0	-1,000	6,000	5,950	5,800	50	200	19,700	19,700	18,000	0	1,700
Electrical prods.	22,300	22,150	19,700	150	2,600										
Miscellaneous prods.	1,900	1,900	1,850	0	50										
Other durables	8,200	8,200	8,300	0	-100	3,500	3,500	3,300	0	200	7,550	7,550	7,500	0	50
Nondurable goods	40,350	40,300	39,900	50	450	7,600	7,750	7,650	-150	-50	6,550	6,600	6,600	-50	-50
Food & kindred prods.	2,800	2,800	2,600	0	200										
Textile mill prods.	4,050	4,100	3,600	-50	450	1,900	2,000	1,950	-100	-50					
Apparel	2,650	2,750	2,800	-100	-150										
Paper & allied prods.	5,250	5,300	5,600	-50	-350										
Print., pub. & allied	6,350	6,300	6,650	50	-300										
Leather & lea. prods.	9,000	8,950	9,100	50	-100										
Other nondurables	10,250	10,100	9,550	150	700	5,700	5,750	5,700	-50	0					
Nonmanufacturing	294,150	293,150	292,350	1,000	1,800	60,400	59,000	59,600	1,400	800	38,150	37,250	37,200	900	950
Construction (inc. min.)	25,550	26,050	24,800	-500	750	3,250	3,250	3,350	0	-100	3,300	3,250	3,050	50	250
Trans., comm. & util.	15,150	*12,100	14,850	3,050	300	5,250	*4,000	5,000	1,250	250	2,200	*1,750	2,150	450	50
Trade	90,850	92,150	90,400	-1,300	450	20,500	20,300	19,950	200	550	14,000	13,850	13,450	150	550
Fin., ins. & real estate	21,150	21,200	21,100	-50	50	6,400	6,450	6,300	-50	100	2,100	2,100	2,100	0	0
Service industry & other	82,300	84,900	81,300	-2,600	1,000	16,550	16,700	16,150	-150	400	11,200	11,250	10,950	-50	250
Government	59,150	56,750	59,900	2,400	-750	8,450	8,300	8,850	150	-400	5,350	5,050	5,500	300	-150
Federal	11,500	11,600	11,600	-100	-100	2,100	2,100	2,100	0	0	750	750	800	0	-50
State	15,200	14,650	15,000	550	200	900	900	850	0	50	300	300	300	0	0
Local	32,450	30,500	33,300	1,950	-850	5,450	5,300	5,900	150	-450	4,300	4,000	4,400	300	-100

* By place of residence
** By place of establishment
Benchmark

Labor Disputes:
**August 1983-Ind 48-2,600 workers on strike not included.
*August 1983-Ind 33-300 workers on strike not included.
*1,300 workers on strike not included.
*300 workers on strike not included.

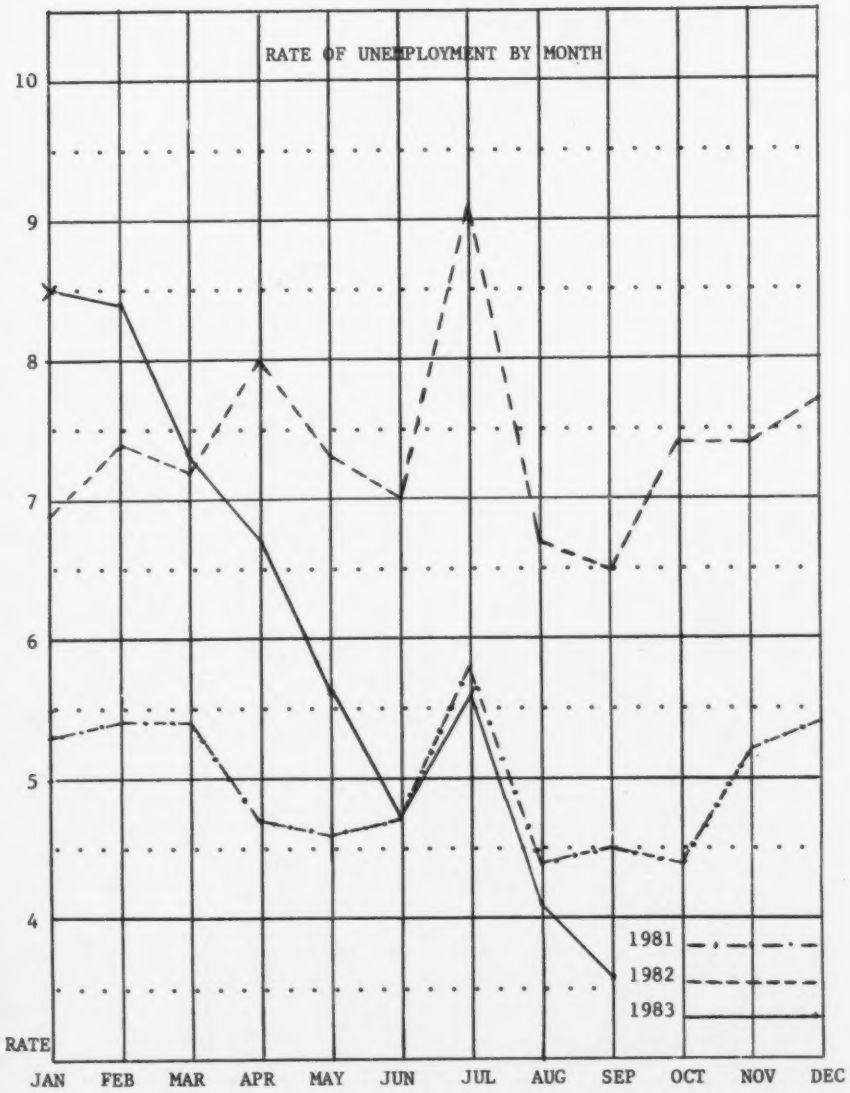
Total Unemployment and Labor Force by Labor Market Area (LMA) and County

Area	Unemployment*								Civilian Labor Force				
	September 1983		August 1983		September 1982		Numerical Change From Previous		September	August	September	Numerical Change From Previous	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Month	Year	1983	1983	1982	Month	Year
United States**	9,830	8.8	10,411	9.2	10,695	9.7	-581	-865	112,197	113,578	110,546	-1,381	1,651
New Hampshire	18,010	3.6	21,090	4.1	31,790	6.5	-3,080	-13,780	505,950	510,090	492,840	-4,140	13,110
Labor Market Area													
Berlin	910	4.6	1,070	5.2	1,810	9.1	-160	-900	19,650	20,390	19,980	-740	-330
Claremont	1,210	3.3	1,490	4.0	2,670	7.3	-280	-1,460	36,620	37,270	36,540	-650	80
Concord	1,300	2.9	1,510	3.4	2,210	5.1	-210	-910	44,520	44,260	43,730	260	790
Dover	1,950	4.4	2,490	5.7	3,300	7.6	-540	-1,350	43,850	43,780	43,400	70	450
Keene	1,380	3.6	1,650	4.4	2,830	7.5	-270	-1,450	38,070	37,320	37,850	750	220
Laconia	1,250	2.8	1,520	3.2	2,620	6.1	-270	-1,370	43,940	47,520	43,190	-3,580	750
Littleton	590	4.0	700	4.6	760	5.3	-110	-170	14,830	15,080	14,260	-250	570
Manchester	3,140	3.6	3,740	4.2	5,460	6.4	-600	-2,320	87,930	88,670	85,300	-740	2,630
Nashua	2,660	3.0	3,180	3.5	4,990	5.9	-520	-2,330	89,770	89,940	85,050	-170	4,720
Portsmouth	2,040	3.4	2,100	3.5	2,860	5.0	-60	-820	59,460	59,660	57,040	-200	2,420
N.H. - Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA***	1,580	5.8	1,640	6.3	2,280	8.6	-60	-700	27,310	26,200	26,500	1,110	810
County													
Belknap	760	3.4	880	3.6	1,420	6.4	-120	-660	22,440	24,150	22,030	-1,710	410
Carroll	340	2.5	440	3.0	800	5.9	-100	-460	13,680	14,430	13,600	-750	80
Cheshire	1,310	3.8	1,550	4.6	2,670	7.8	-240	-1,360	34,170	33,490	34,030	680	140
Coos	880	5.1	1,050	5.8	1,500	8.6	-170	-620	17,370	17,960	17,400	-590	-30
Grafton	1,040	3.0	1,150	3.2	1,770	5.3	-110	-730	34,390	35,410	33,530	-1,020	860
Hillsborough	5,100	3.2	6,010	3.8	9,180	6.0	-910	-4,080	158,630	159,140	151,920	-510	6,710
Merrimack	1,470	2.9	1,780	3.4	2,640	5.3	-310	-1,170	51,120	51,650	50,180	-530	940
Rockingham	4,570	3.9	4,960	4.3	6,850	6.1	-390	-2,280	115,780	115,100	111,760	680	4,020
Strafford	1,740	4.4	2,240	5.7	2,990	7.7	-500	-1,250	39,370	39,330	39,000	40	370
Sullivan	800	4.2	1,030	5.3	1,970	10.2	-230	-1,170	19,000	19,430	19,390	-430	-390

* Based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics "43 Step Method" Handbook adjusted to the Current Population Survey estimates.

** In thousands, not seasonally adjusted.

*** New Hampshire portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes Salem and six small towns.



AREA DEFINITIONS

Manchester Labor Market Area includes the city of Manchester and towns of Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Chester, Derry, Goffstown, Hooksett, Londonderry, New Boston, Raymond and Weare.

Nashua Labor Market Area is located in the southern section of Hillsborough County and includes the City of Nashua and the towns of Amherst, Brookline, Greenville, Hollis, Litchfield, Lyndeboro, Mason, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, New Ipswich, Pelham, Temple and Wilton.

U. S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Item	1983	1982	1981	1980
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers				
Current month - September	300.8			
Percent change from year ago	2.7			
Year average		288.6	272.3	247.0
Percent increase each year		6.0	10.2	13.5
All Urban Consumers				
Current month - September	301.8			
Percent change from year ago	2.9			
Year average		289.1	272.4	246.8
Percent increase each year		6.1	10.4	13.5

Correction for August Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers 1983 should be 299.5 instead of 229.5.

STAFFING PATTERNS - TRADE INDUSTRIES

BY MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP

(Based on Occupational Employment Statistics
Survey-New Hampshire Staffing Patterns in Wholesale and Resale Trade
Trade Industries 1982 report in the process of being printed)

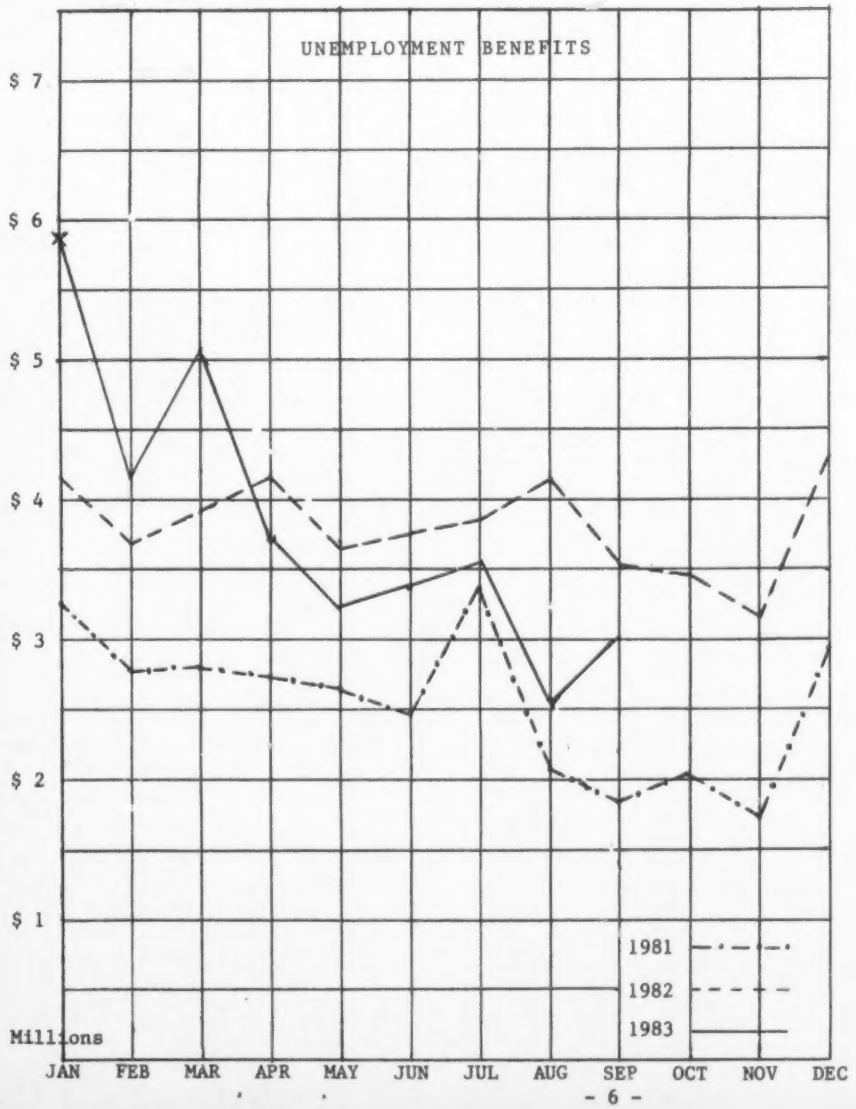
SIC CODE	INDUSTRY CODE	JUNE 1982 ESTIMATED EMPLOYMENT	PERCENT MANAGERIAL 10000	PROFESSIONAL 20000	TECHNICAL 30000	SERVICE 40000	PRODUCTION 50000	CLERICAL 60000	SALES 70000
50	WHOLESALE TRADE (Durable Goods)	9,530	10.7	4.0	3.5	0.6	29.7	26.5	25.0
501	Motor Vehicles & Automotive Parts & Supplies	1,919	12.3	2.0	*	0.8	28.7	26.5	29.7
506	Electrical Goods	959	10.4	5.4	5.9	*	9.9	27.4	40.9
508	Machinery, Equipment, and Supplies	3,821	9.7	4.9	7.0	0.8	30.2	23.7	23.7
51	WHOLESALE TRADE (Nondurable Goods)	6,547	11.0	2.7	0.8	3.0	35.1	22.2	25.2
514	Groceries and Related Products	2,557	10.3	3.2	*	5.8	44.4	14.4	21.9
519	Miscellaneous Nondurable Goods	1,204	11.7	2.6	*	*	27.7	37.0	20.6
52	RETAIL TRADE (Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply, and Mobile Home Dealers)	3,634	16.9	2.2	*	0.7	31.7	18.7	29.6
521	Lumber and Other Building Material Dealers	1,735	15.4	2.1	*	0.6	33.3	21.8	26.3
525	Hardware Stores	978	18.6	4.2	*	1.5	14.0	14.3	47.3
53	RETAIL TRADE (General Merchandise Stores)	7,741	9.2	1.5	*	4.8	18.9	26.3	39.2
531	Department Stores	7,108	8.8	1.7	*	4.9	19.1	26.0	39.5
54	RETAIL TRADE (Food Stores)	15,326	7.5	1.1	*	7.2	37.5	34.6	12.1
541	Grocery Stores	13,619	5.9	1.0	*	5.6	40.5	37.0	10.0
55	RETAIL TRADE (Automotive Dealers and Gasoline Service Stations)	8,234	14.6	1.7	0.4	0.9	51.6	16.9	13.9
551	Motor Vehicle Dealers (New and Used)	3,973	17.6	2.1	*	1.2	42.1	18.9	18.2
554	Gasoline Service Stations	2,564	8.8	0.8	*	0.8	69.2	14.5	5.9
56	RETAIL TRADE (Apparel and Accessory Stores)	4,000	16.4	2.5	*	0.5	6.6	12.6	61.4
562	Women's Ready-To-Wear Stores	1,095	16.5	2.9	*	*	3.9	7.8	68.0
565	Family Clothing Stores	1,160	12.7	1.4	*	*	7.5	18.2	60.0
57	RETAIL TRADE (Furniture, Home Furnishings, and Equipment Stores)	2,563	16.8	4.3	0.6	0.9	24.9	17.0	35.5
571	Furniture, Home Furnishings, and Equipment Stores, Except Appliances	1,327	17.0	6.5	*	1.6	24.9	19.9	30.1
58	RETAIL TRADE (Eating and Drinking Places)	22,968	4.9	*	*	89.7	0.8	4.3	0.3
581	Eating and Drinking Places	22,968	4.9	*	*	89.7	0.8	4.3	0.3
59	RETAIL (Miscellaneous)	9,986	13.0	6.9	0.2	2.1	19.3	26.4	32.1
591	Drug Stores and Proprietary Stores	1,792	9.7	19.6	*	*	7.4	29.1	33.2
594	Miscellaneous Shopping Goods Stores	3,142	17.7	2.7	*	0.9	5.7	15.6	57.4
596	Nonstore Retailers	2,049	9.4	4.3	*	7.3	26.6	47.6	4.5
598	Fuel and Ice Dealers	1,560	10.8	1.1	*	0.7	53.8	22.8	10.8
599	Retail Stores, Not Elsewhere Classified	1,300	14.9	10.1	*	0.8	12.3	21.2	38.2
	Total Trade Industries	90,529	9.9	2.2	0.5	25.1	22.9	19.8	19.6

* Less than 10 employees

Weekly Claims Filed During September 1983
Classified by Local Office

Area	Unemployment Compensation		U.C. State Workers (Only)		UC Local Government		Servicemen UCX (Only)		U.C. Federal Employees No UI	
	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.
All Offices	3,356	22,905	22	68	6	34	69	163	24	97
Berlin	222	1,134	2	5	0	1	4	5	0	0
Claremont	179	1,777	2	14	1	4	4	14	0	2
Concord	222	1,833	4	18	0	1	6	18	0	4
Dover	514	3,459	4	7	0	8	13	25	10	27
Keene	313	1,704	0	7	3	17	3	1	1	2
Laconia	203	1,210	5	9	0	0	4	17	2	0
Littleton	185	517	2	5	1	2	1	6	0	0
Manchester	589	3,212	1	0	0	0	19	20	3	37
Nashua	238	1,893	1	0	0	0	5	7	1	3
Portsmouth	370	2,700	0	2	1	1	7	39	3	7
Salem	70	809	0	0	0	0	1	6	1	1
Liable State	251	2,657	1	1	0	0	2	5	3	14

The average payment for a week of total unemployment was $103.20



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance End Of Month

$69,554,906.77 September

Net contributions received during month:

$157,326.34 September

Net benefits paid during month: September

$ 3,000,336.55

Interest Received:

$ -0-

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

New Hampshire

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	1983 Sept.	1983 Aug.	1982 Sept.	1983 Sept.	1983 Aug.	1982 Sept.	1983 Sept.	1983 Aug.	1982 Sept.
All manufacturing	$302.54	$303.06	$274.48	40.5	40.3	39.1	$7.47	$7.52	$7.02
Durable goods	314.83	312.66	284.64	41.1	40.5	39.1	7.66	7.72	7.28
Lumber & wood prods.	233.75	226.70	225.22	38.7	38.1	39.1	6.04	5.95	5.76
Furniture & fixtures	269.47	270.75	242.50	40.1	39.7	38.8	6.72	6.82	6.25
Stone & clay prods.	309.17	314.50	247.79	43.0	43.2	38.9	7.19	7.28	6.37
Primary metal prods.	344.00	345.58	329.72	43.0	43.8	43.1	8.00	7.89	7.65
Fab. metal prods.	298.80	291.85	269.56	41.1	50.2	40.2	7.27	7.26	7.15
Mach. (exc. elec.)	349.25	344.82	314.31	42.8	42.0	40.4	8.16	8.21	7.78
Electrical prods.	317.95	318.38	281.92	40.4	39.6	38.2	7.87	8.04	7.38
Miscellaneous prods.	245.22	242.13	231.66	40.6	40.9	39.0	6.04	5.92	5.94
Other durables	319.20	320.74	293.76	39.8	39.5	38.3	8.02	8.12	7.67
Nondurable goods	283.14	287.28	257.79	39.6	39.9	39.0	7.15	7.20	6.61
Food & kindred prods.	381.74	417.18	403.12	42.7	42.7	42.3	8.94	9.77	9.53
Textile mill prods.	266.38	262.02	224.84	40.3	39.7	38.5	6.61	6.60	5.84
Apparel	194.09	193.73	189.81	36.9	37.4	37.0	5.26	5.18	5.13
Paper & allied prods.	422.69	408.43	368.80	47.6	47.0	43.8	8.88	8.69	8.42
Print., pub. & allied	311.65	314.41	260.25	39.3	39.4	37.5	7.93	7.98	6.94
Leather & lea. prods.	183.73	186.73	184.91	34.6	35.5	36.4	5.31	5.26	5.08
Footwear	171.37	174.70	176.54	33.8	34.8	36.4	5.07	5.02	4.85
Other nondurables	303.06	317.18	272.28	40.3	41.3	40.1	7.52	7.68	6.79

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 56

Total Production Workers: 81,221

Firms Reporting: 312

Manchester Labor Market Area

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	1983 Sept.	1983 Aug.	1982 Sept.	1983 Sept.	1983 Aug.	1982 Sept.	1983 Sept.	1983 Aug.	1982 Sept.
All manufacturing	$276.91	$272.45	$263.34	39.9	39.6	39.6	$6.94	$6.88	$6.65
Durable goods	285.91	280.35	271.55	39.6	39.1	38.3	7.22	7.17	7.09
Mach. & elec. prods.	307.49	298.98	276.58	40.3	39.6	38.9	7.63	7.55	7.11
Other durables	250.90	249.98	263.30	38.6	38.4	37.4	6.50	6.51	7.04
Nondurable goods	267.59	263.20	253.78	40.3	40.0	40.8	6.64	6.58	6.22
Textiles & apparel	251.65	245.52	217.93	40.2	39.6	38.1	6.26	6.20	5.72
Other nondurables	272.43	269.34	265.63	40.3	50.2	41.7	6.76	6.70	6.37

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 48

Total Production Workers: 12,618

Firms Reporting: 44

Nashua Labor Market Area

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	1983 Sept.	1983 Aug.	1982 Sept.	1983 Sept.	1983 Aug.	1982 Sept.	1983 Sept.	1983 Aug.	1982 Sept.
All manufacturing	$364.08	$354.24	$313.97	41.0	40.3	39.1	$8.88	$8.79	$8.03
Durable goods	372.11	354.64	317.20	41.3	40.3	39.6	9.01	8.80	8.01
Mach. & elec. prods.	409.00	388.45	349.27	40.9	39.8	39.6	10.00	9.76	8.82
Other durables	302.28	291.28	266.11	42.1	41.2	39.6	7.18	7.07	6.72
Nondurable goods	334.27	353.90	302.13	39.7	40.4	37.3	8.42	8.76	8.10

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 65

Total Production Workers: 19,372

Firms Reporting: 62

Number of Active Applicants and Female Applicants by Major Occupational Category
Period Ending September 30, 1983

	NEW HAMPSHIRE		MANCHESTER		NASHUA	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
TOTAL	11,930	4,893	1,881	734	1,370	563
Prof., Tech. (00-16)	1,596	669	195	75	292	103
Managerial (18,19)	278	77	20	7	23	10
Clerical (20-24)	2,277	1,821	328	253	276	204
Sales (25-29)	635	279	106	38	60	25
Services (3)	1,607	768	261	110	133	67
Farm (4)	158	15	23	1	7	0
Processing (5)	254	54	56	7	46	17
Machine Trade (6)	1,353	323	190	59	136	16
Benchwork (7)	1,126	662	227	137	159	94
Structural (8)	1,602	52	275	7	112	7
Miscellaneous (9)	1,002	154	190	37	125	20
Unclassified	42	19	10	3	1	0

Employment Service Activity

ITEM	September 1983	August 1983	October 1982 to September 1983
Total applicants for employment	2,354	2,867	62,523
Total nonagricultural job openings received	2,242	2,774	21,483
Job openings unfilled end of monch	2,107	2,121	xxx
Placements - nonagricultural & agricultural	848	1,521	11,507

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
32 SOUTH MAIN STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE $300

CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE, INC.
4520 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY
SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20014